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8 October 1959

MEMORANDUM FOR: SA/BR
THROUGH: Ch/G
THROUGH: Acting Ch/D/CG
FROM: Ch/CG/X

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[redacted] requested a conference to see me concerning developments in Antarctica. He showed me [redacted] which contained an article on Antarctic developments and asked me to comment on it. After reading the article I pointed out several minor points which required some clarification. The article made reference to the transfer of Wilkes station to Australia, and of the Ellsworth station to Argentina. I pointed out that these were not outright transfers but rather lease transfers. The article also indicated that the Norwegians were planning to continue operations for the 1959-60 season. Our information indicates that this station will not continue operating as a Norwegian station. The article also reported that an Italian and West German expedition were planned for the coming season. I pointed out that these are not in the same class with other Antarctic expeditions since to our knowledge neither one of these had the support of either their own governments or of recognized scientists. The article did not contain any information that was not already known.

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[redacted] was then given a briefing on Soviet plans for the forthcoming season as well as other indications of expanding Soviet interest in Antarctica. The material for this briefing was obtained from press and [redacted] sources. No other classified information was utilized. This is the same information contained in the OCI Weekly, Part III to be published in the issue of 11 October 1959.

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